

## **Talking Points on School Funding/Revenue Sharing and Property Taxes-Dr. Tom Ward, Superintendent of Schools-Mt. Blue Regional School District**

What actions can we ask our legislators to consider when making decisions about the Governor's proposed budget and its impact on property taxes?

In General Purpose Aid (GPA) to Education the educational mill rate determines what towns have to raise for their local share to receive their state share. This year's educational mill rate is 8.1% and in the Governor's proposed budget for next year it is increasing to 8.47%. This means the towns already have to pay more to get their state allocation.

**Action 1**-Ask our Legislators to consider moving more money into General Purpose Aid to Education and that will reduce the projected increase in educational mills to our towns.

Revenue sharing is very important to our towns. The Governor continues to support reducing and/or eliminating revenue sharing.

**Action 2**- Ask our Legislators to stop reducing revenue sharing to our towns and consider increasing it.

**These two actions would help to take some of the burden of funding our schools and towns off of the property owner.**